The Thoroughbred Breeders' Association

Championing the future of the British Thoroughbred





THE THOROUGHBRED BREEDERS' ASSOCIATION

Impact of the Environment Bill on the Equine Sector

Claire Sheppard (Chief Executive) Victoria Murrell (Executive Secretary)





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Legislative Changes and Government Objectives

What changes have taken place and are expected?

- Government's 25 Year Environmental Plan approach to protecting and enhancing landscapes and habitats for the next generation
- Climate Change Act (amended 2019) pledged to reduce all greenhouse gas emissions to net zero by 2050
- Agriculture Act (2020) phasing out of the Basic Payments EU CAP Scheme
- Environment Bill still passing through the House of Lords
- New Environmental Land Management Scheme (ELMS) to be introduced, which will award public monies for public goods, that may not have a high commercial value



What environmental markers will be assessed?

Farm Level

- Enhanced air quality
- Improved water quality
- Thriving wildlife and increased biodiversity
- Soil health
- Flood mitigation measures
- Public access and heritage preservation

Landscape Level

 Biodiversity net gain – working with bordering properties to bring about positive changes across a landscape







What steps are the TBA taking to help breeders?

Evaluating the Current Position

- As a low input, grassland management sector, breeders are likely to already be making a positive impact.
- Funding secured from the Racing Foundation to carry out case study Environmental Impact Assessments and carbon calculations on two stud farms (completed, results awaited).

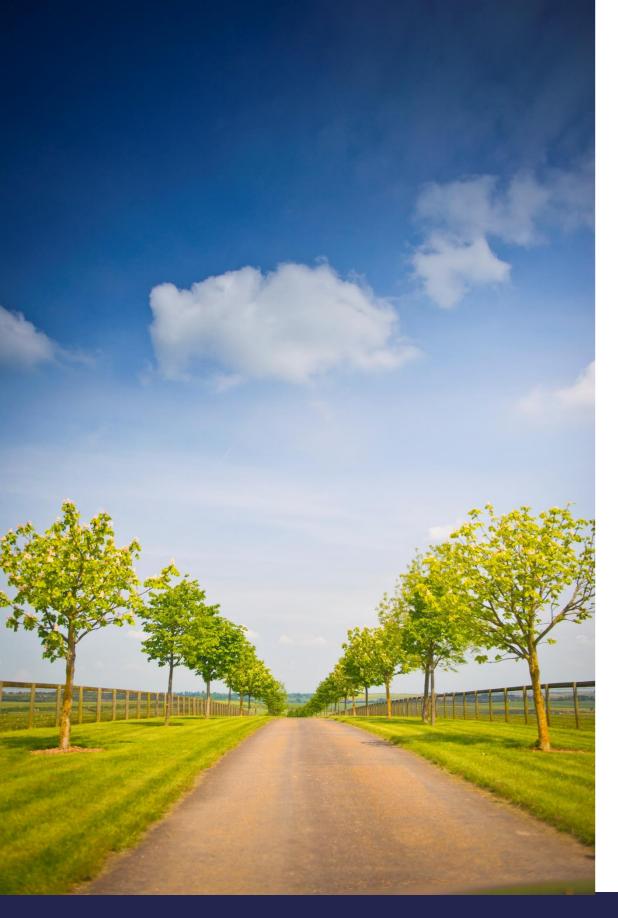
Researching Initiatives in Other Countries

- The French have a Scheme (EquuRES) which awards points for working towards high standards of sustainability and welfare, which are recognised when accessing Government funding.
- European Thematic Network.

Looking to Collaborate and Share Resources

• With other sectors of the Thoroughbred industry and also throughout the broader equine community.





Where do I start?

- Composting/recycling of manure
- Covered muck heaps
- Renewable energy sources solar panels and wind turbines
- Electric equipment/machinery ٠
- Grass/herb seed mixes suitable for grazing •
- Wildflower meadows/walkways/margins •
- Planting Trees (England Woodland Creation Offer • (EWCO) Scheme)
- Stoned gateways and positioning of gateways on higher ground
- Reinforced grass car parks
- Green walls/rooves
- Rainwater catchment/gardens
- Reduced programmes of mowing/topping/hedge cutting
- **Cross drains**
- Sediment traps





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